

PLATINUM AMERICAN EAGLES

FOR 1998 FROM THE UNITED STATES MINT

INTRODUCING THE VISTAS OF LIBERTY™ SERIES

PLATINUM

OUR NATION'S MOST DESIRABLE COINS

Often heralded as the most rare and exceptional of all the precious metals, platinum is cherished as much for its rich and pleasing lustre as it is for the clear-cut way it accepts and accents the intricacies of the minted image. This is particularly beneficial not only for the combined incuse and relief elements on our Nation's 1998 platinum coinage, but because it dramatically highlights the contrast of a proof coin's softly frosted images against the mirror-like quality of the background. To enhance this superb effect, all *American Eagle* Platinum Proof coins are offered in luxurious black velvet presentation packaging.



PRESENTING THE FOREMOST ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MINTER'S ART, AND THE KEYSTONE OF THE AMERICAN EAGLE FAMILY OF EXQUISITE COLLECTIBLE COINS.

There is a satisfying sense of solidity, distinction and historic significance to these new platinum coins. It is a surprising in-hand perception that defies description — until you lift your first coin from its display case, feel its substantial weight, and closely examine its exquisite beauty, elegance and superlative design. Unlike any other modern coinage, *American Eagle* Platinum Proof Coins are the ultimate acquisition for the knowledgeable collector; they are the premiere collectible coins from the United States Mint.

All coins, as well as the Four Coin Set, are accompanied by a detailed Certificate Of Authenticity, signed by the Director of the Mint, Philip N. Diehl.



PLATINUM

AMERICAN EAGLES for 1998

FROM THE UNITED STATES MINT

COAST TO COAST — CROSSING THE MILLENNIUM

THE VISTAS OF LIBERTY™ SERIES

Our 1998 platinum coin's reverse features a new design by renowned U. S. Mint sculptor and engraver, John Mercanti. Indeed, it is the first in our VISTAS OF LIBERTY™ series of five annually changing reverses through 2002, featuring regional landscapes of the United States.

Depicted first is the formidable, yet ultimately welcoming coast of New England, beckoning adventurers, explorers, vast fishing fleets...and, yes, the first rugged Pilgrim souls who sought freedom and peace in a new land. Here, epitomizing the strength and pride of the American people, a bald eagle soars above the Atlantic, headed west along a craggy coastline. A lighthouse completes the image, signifying America as a beacon to the world's weary wayfarers from across the seas of time and tide.

On the obverse, also sculpted by John Mercanti, Lady Liberty looks us straight in the eye — inspiring us to match her vigilance over freedom, the cherished cornerstone of our Nation's heritage. It is only fitting that America's most beloved symbol will grace the obverse of Platinum American Eagles into the future.

MINTAGE LIMITS AND AVAILABILITY

PROMPT ACTION IS SUGGESTED

Aside from their distinctive beauty and collectibility, one of the most compelling reasons to acquire this year's proof platinum coinage is scarcity. Numismatic authorities will record these numbers as some of the lowest authorized mintages in the Mint's 206-year history.

PLATINUM IN HISTORY...

Although popularly thought to be "discovered" in South America in 1735, artifacts have been found in Meso-American nations dating back many hundreds of years earlier. In fact, in alloyed form, platinum was known in ancient Greece and Rome. Its first known use as legal tender was in 1828, when Russia minted three-ruble platinum coins. Today, platinum — one of the noble metals — is highly desirable for the creation of high-end jewelry, in numerous high-tech applications, and in numismatic collections the world over.

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A SWIFT SELL-OUT IS LIKELY

Last year, we sold out three options, turning away well over a thousand orders. This year, with even lower mintages spread across the four denominations of these platinum coins, we expect a quick sell-out. This is made all the more possible because 1998 is the first of the five-year VISTAS OF LIBERTY™ series designs, and the only opportunity to obtain this initial coin. Avoid disappointment; order your coins today.

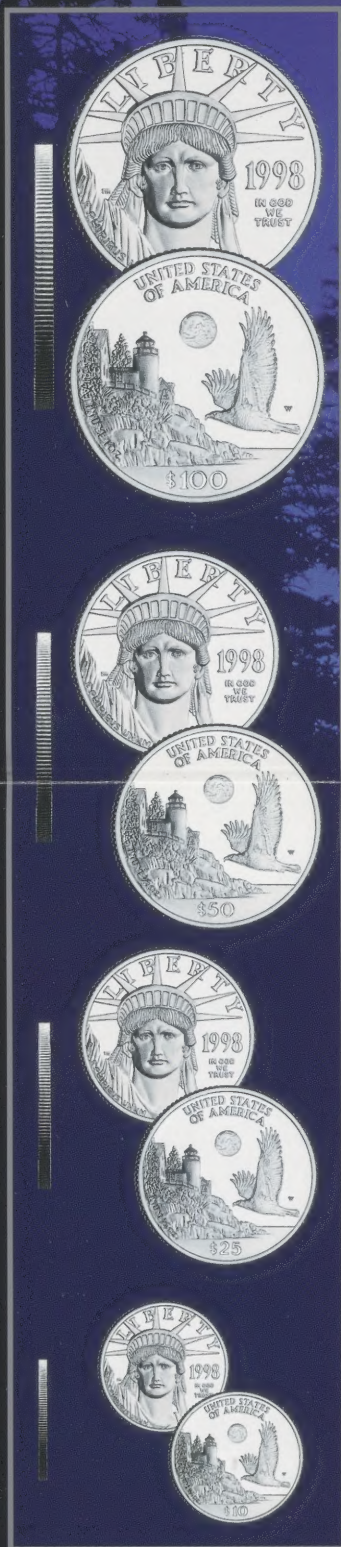


COIN	1 OUNCE	1/2 OUNCE	1/4 OUNCE	1/10 OUNCE	4-COIN
* LEGAL TENDER DESIGNATION	\$100	\$50	\$25	\$10	
* ORDER OPTION MINTAGE	5,000	4,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
* TOTAL MINTAGE (INC. SETS)	15,000	14,000	15,000	20,000	
* WEIGHT (TROY OZ.)	1.0005	0.5003	0.2501	0.10005	
* PURE PLATINUM CONTENT	99.95%	99.95%	99.95%	99.95%	
* DIAMETER (MM)	32.70	27.00	22.00	16.50	
* THICKNESS (MM)	2.43	1.80	1.37	1.00	
* MINT MARK (WEST POINT)	W	W	W	W	

*Note that the coins included in the Four Coin Sets are part of the total mintage detailed above. In addition, strictly limited numbers of special sets which may be offered in our annual Catalog are also included in these mintage numbers.

DUE TO LOW MINTAGES, ONLY MAIL ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Retain these announcement materials and keep them with your platinum coins. They provide provenance and background for your collection.



Coins shown actual size to properly display sculpted details and minting quality.

Incuse sculpting, where the design element goes below the surface plane of the coin, is unusual in U. S. coinage. Three such details are featured on 1998 platinum coins.



HOW TO ORDER

Please fill out the enclosed Order Card and place it with your remittance in the return envelope. Coins may be delivered in multiple shipments. Be sure to read the back of your Order Card for special ordering requirements. If you have a question about your order after it is placed, please contact: Customer Care Center, United States Mint, 10003 Derekwood Lane, Lanham, MD 20706-2255; telephone (202)283-COIN.

COLLECTOR'S RECORD

CUSTOMER NUMBER: _____

DATE OF ORDER: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: _____

AMOUNT OF ORDER: _____

ORDER DESCRIPTION: _____



UNITED STATES MINT
Department of the Treasury
Serving America Since 1792

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
UNITED STATES MINT

WASHINGTON, DC 20220

Serving America Since 1792

June 5, 1998

Dear Collector,

I am proud to introduce our new American Eagle Platinum Proof Coins to you. What's more, I believe you'll find this year's design — and the news about our five-year Vistas of Liberty™ Series — especially intriguing.

As a U. S. Mint American Eagle Gold Proof collector, you already know more than most about the beauty and historic significance of this splendid series of coins. But now, with the start of the platinum Vistas of Liberty™ Series — where the coin reverses will be new American panoramas every year through 2002 — the idea of strengthening your personal collection takes on much greater depth and importance.

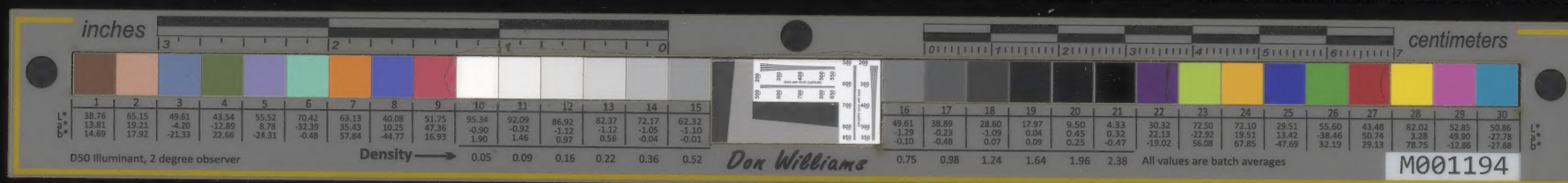
Yes, this is a very special U. S. Mint program that I'm sure you will enjoy and cherish for years to come.

To begin the series, the 1998 reverse design captures all the mystique, romance and fascination of the rocky New England coast. To me, it seems especially appropriate to begin our Vistas of Liberty™ Series here...that corner of our country where the Pilgrims first set foot.

You'll agree that John Mercanti has captured the essence of this part of our northeastern shoreline, and brings the highest standards of sculpting and engraving excellence to the newest American platinum coin. Of course, Lady Liberty, proud and free, graces the obverse of our platinum coins. The Mint wouldn't have it any other way.

Next, take a look at the mintage numbers on the enclosed brochure. You'll see that the very limited numbers of available coins in each denomination only adds to their desirability and collectibility. Also, keep in mind that the coins in the Four-Coin Sets are part of the

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overall mintages. This is certainly an important consideration when selecting your Platinum Proof coins this year.

I urge you to respond to this collector's opportunity today. Delay can mean disappointment; remember that the Vistas of Liberty™ Series will be seen as an important acquisition for serious American Eagle collectors such as yourself — people who understand the history and development of our Nation's coinage.

One final note....

American Eagle Platinum Proof Coins from the United States Mint are the culmination of our experience, skill and sense of our Nation's history. As the U. S. Mint's premiere collectible coin, Platinum Proof should be a natural and desirable addition to your growing collection. Place your order today.

Sincerely,

Philip N. Diehl
Director
United States Mint

P.S. This year's authorized mintage is 36% lower than last year's already low quantities.